

## **Approved at the November 18, 2008 meeting**

Flathead County Solid Waste District  
Board of Directors Meeting  
October 28, 2008 – **5:00 p.m.**  
Landfill Office

### 1. Roll Call

Board Members present: Hank Olson, Chairman; Bill Shaw, Vice Chair; Greg Acton, City of Whitefish; John Helton, Member at Large and Alan Ruby, Member at Large. Absent: Nancy Askew, Board of Health and Dale Lauman, County Commissioner.

District Staff present: Public Works Director Dave Prunty, Operations Manager Jim Chilton and Recording Secretary Deborah Morine.

Attendees: Matt O'Connell, Lee Griswold and Robin Boon

### 2. Introductory Remarks from Chairman

Hank Olson welcomed everyone and referenced a letter that was provided by Anna Marie Bailey concerning the Ashley Lake Road site.

### 3. Comments from public

Lee Griswold – Ashley Lake Road area. Stated he would like to comment during the West Corridor Container Site Consolidation Project. Hank stated that would be fine.

### 4. Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes for September 23, 2008 - **Action Required**

**John Helton moved to adopt the minutes for September 23, 2008. Alan Ruby seconded. Motion passed.**

### 5. Action Agenda

#### a. Bid Award for Refuse Truck

The District solicited bids from qualified equipment firms to supply one truck chassis and refuse body. Bids were received from one firm. The company's bid price is as follows:

Montana Peterbilt - \$243,744 excluding a trade allowance of \$45,386. With the trade the total price is \$198,358.

The District requested prices to trade in our oldest refuse truck. On our last truck purchase we sold the trade-in truck at auction and received a higher price. Staff is again recommending this action with the older truck.

Staff is recommending that the bid be awarded to Montana Peterbilt for one Peterbilt chassis with a Wittke refuse body.

*Dave stated that the District has obtained a valuation of \$65, 000 for the old truck and would prefer to auction it.*

**Alan Ruby moved to award the bid for one Peterbilt chassis with a Wittke refuse body to Montana Peterbilt for the amount of \$243,744 and authorize the Public Works Director to proceed with procurement of the machine. John Helton seconded. Motion passed.**

b. Salary Negotiations for Public Works Director

October 1<sup>st</sup> marked the one year anniversary date for Dave's new position as the Public Works Director for the County. When the position was created and the contract negotiated between the parties, it called for a compensation review after the completion of the first and second years of the three year contract. Dave has received a favorable review from Mike Pence, County Administrator and also Board Chair, Hank Olson. For comparison purposes for the salary level the County Human Resource Director performed a salary review of comparable positions with local governments in Montana. They have agreed to an increase in salary of \$5,000 for this year of the contract. Both the Solid Waste Board and the County Commissioners must approve the compensation package.

**Greg Acton moved to increase the Public Works Director's compensation by \$5,000 effective October 1, 2008. John Helton seconded. Motion passed.**

6. Director's Report

a. Landfill Environmental Liability Insurance

Robin Boon with Western State Insurance has continued to work on the policy and premiums for the environmental liability policy the District is contemplating purchasing. She has narrowed the providers down to two carriers. Staff provided the requested information from the companies regarding our groundwater monitoring reports, environmental compliance reports from DEQ and some reports on the success of the corrective actions work. Robin will be at the meeting to update the Board on this work.

*Robin Boon addressed the Board and stated she had procured an excellent quote from Endurance for Environmental Impairment Liability with a retro date of July 1, 1998. She stated that Endurance is offering a three –year 3 million dollar policy for \$59,504 or a three-year 5 million dollar policy for \$69,750. She strongly recommended that the Board take the policy.*

*The Board held discussions and asked Dave to look at the budget to see if there are sufficient funds and to amend and proceed as necessary. Dave will report to the Board by e-mail.*

b. West Corridor Container Site Consolidation Project

As directed by the Board last month, staff has continued to pursue the consolidation of the Marion and Kila container sites into a new site located on State of Montana owned land near the junction of Ashley Lake Road and Highway 2 West. Staff met with the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) and our design engineer from TD&H to view the site layout and provide a preliminary survey for layout and estimating the construction expenses. The proposed design is included in your board packet. The engineer's preliminary estimate for construction is \$387,000. The container site pad is approximately 1.6 acres in size and will include sufficient area for solid waste operations and the recycling program.

*Dave stated that there has been a change in the road design to come in at a different angle. There were discussions on the MEPA process, and another meeting with the committee that the Kila/Marion residents selected. All agreed that something needs to be done soon.*

*Mr. Griswold commented at this time. He distributed and read his letter/comments to the Board. He is concerned with the location of the proposed Ashley Lake Road site, groundwater issues in that area, disturbing a scenic corridor, traffic hazards etc.*

*The board discussed the comments/concerns that were brought up.*

*Hank asked that the West Corridor Container Site Consolidation Project be added to the agenda again next month.*

c. Annual Landfill Utilization and Efficiency Calculations

Mike Cullinane with SWT Engineering has calculated the annual airspace utilization and the corresponding effective density and refuse to soil ratio for the last year of operations. The District consumed 224,400 CY of total airspace between the topo dates of July 11, 2007 and July 11, 2008. 120,475 tons of material was landfilled and 64,660 CY of soil was used for cover material for a refuse to soil ratio of 3.5:1. The effective density was calculated at 1,074 lbs/CY, which is the total pounds of refuse measured over the scale divided by the total airspace consumed, including refuse and all soil for the given period.

All numbers are within standard industry landfill practices and meet the goals determined for the District by the Board of Directors.

d. Landfill Gas to Energy Project

Flathead Electric Cooperative has continued to proceed with the project. An energy facility construction kick off meeting occurred on October 16<sup>th</sup>. The contractor has mobilized equipment to the landfill and has started construction. The energy building is scheduled to be completed in four to five months. The well field facility improvements are still in the design phase but are scheduled to begin shortly.

A question of zoning at the landfill property has been discussed. Currently the landfill property is zoned either R-1, SAG-10 or AG-40. The energy plant will be on land zoned AG-40. Staff has had discussions with Jeff Harris, Flathead County Planning and Zoning Director and Jonathan Smith from the County Attorney's Office.

When the District expanded the landfill for the South Area Landfill we used the Agency Exemption in regards to the County Zoning Regulations. On December 2, 2003 the Flathead County Board of Adjustment held a public hearing on that Agency Exemption request. The Board of Adjustment does not have jurisdiction over an Agency Exemption request but is the venue for public input for that request. Jonathan Smith has reviewed that request and minutes from that meeting and believes that when the District made the request it was for the whole landfill facility and that the exemption is also valid for the energy project since this is a standard solid waste project. Jonathan has prepared a memo detailing his legal opinion and it is included in your board packet.

*Dave updated the Board on the building project and discussed the zoning issue.*

e. Refuse Operations

Operations proceeded well for the month. Tonnage/Volumes are shown below:

	<u>September</u>
Total MSW to landfill	10,241.25
Total Appliances Collected	1,127
Junk Vehicles Collected	20
Truck Trips to Landfill	531
Refuse tons/trip	6.86

The District landfilled 4.8% less waste in September, 2008 as compared to September, 2007 and our refuse trucks hauled 5.7% less waste comparing the same time frame.

The waste landfilled from January through September, 2008 is down 12.2% as compared to the same time frame in 2007.

7. Comments from Board Members

Hank asked if everyone had seen the Gas to Energy article in the Daily Interlake recently.

8. Adjournment

**The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.**